

REMARKS

The application filed herewith is a continuation of International Patent Application No. PCT/E02/08870, and is being filed under 35 USC § 111(a).

To the extent that it is required for filing purposes, enclosed is a copy of the original German language International application from which priority is being claimed.

With this Preliminary Amendment, claims 12-15 are being canceled, without prejudice, for the sole purpose of reducing the filing fee to the minimum provided (i.e., based on three (3) independent claims.) By canceling these claims, Applicants in no way intend to abandon the subject matter of these claims, surrender these claims, or dedicate these claims to the public. Applicants reserve the right to re-introduce the subject matter of the canceled claims into this application prior to termination of proceedings in this application, or into any subsequent applications that rightfully claim priority to the present application.

The specification has also been amended to cross-reference related applications from which priority is claimed.

Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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